# **2006 FISCAL ISSUES**

## **Revenue Changes since 2005 Session**

Timeline	Revenue Forecasts	05-07 Projected Fund Balance
End 2005 Session		\$178
June Forecast	\$450	\$628
September Forecast	\$493	\$1,119*

<sup>\*</sup>Numbers do not add up due to rounding

September Optimistic Forecast: \$863 Million September Pessimistic Forecast: (\$967 Million)

## **Reasons for the Higher Forecasts**

- Continued strength in real estate and construction activity
- Continued Washington economic growth
- Stronger than expected U.S. economic expansion

## **Concerns Going Forward**

- Real estate and construction activity may have peaked
- The affect of oil prices on the state and national economy
- An extended Boeing strike

#### 2006 Supplemental Budget Issues

- A rough estimate of some of the caseloads and technical errors suggest that the supplemental will be at least \$190 million.
- This includes estimates for the following:

Item	Dollars (Millions) \$1,119	
05-07 Projected Fund Balance		
K-12 Forecast Federal Funding Issues in Medical Assistance GAU Forecast Employee Health Care Benefits Corrections Error in Community College Appropriation	\$75 \$50 \$25 \$15 \$15	
	\$190	

### **Unfunded Pension Liability**

The legislature, in the 2005 session, suspended the scheduled payment towards the \$4 billion unfunded pension liability. To contribute 2% of pay for PERS and 4% of pay for TRS would cost \$150 million. The contribution must be substantially higher in future biennia.

Item	Dollars (Millions)
Unfunded Pension Liability	\$150
ADJUSTED FUND BALANCE	\$779

#### Other Mandatory Costs and Budget Issues

- The following are some of the issues that will likely surface by the 2006 Legislative Session:
  - Shortfalls in other accounts such as HSA and PSEA
  - Caseload forecasts such as medical assistance, long-term care, and children's
  - Gain Sharing
  - TANF Shortfall
  - Second Year Omni
  - Science WASL
  - Hurricane Katrina Relief
  - Increased Fuel Costs
  - Vaccines
  - All Other Issues

## ...AND LEAVE AN ADEQUATE RESERVE.